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Dated: January 26, 2004

Signature:

(Marian L. Christopher)

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Docket No.: 286002021400
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Chaitan KHOSLA *et al.*

Application No.: 09/687,855

Art Unit: 1652

Filed: October 13, 2000

Examiner: K. Kerr, Ph.D.

For: *E COLI* THAT SYNTHESIZES
METHYLMALONYL COA AND *E COLI* AND
STREPTOMYCES HOST CELLS THAT
CONTAIN AN ADDED MATB GENE
(As amended)

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated September 26, 2003 (Paper No. 21), for which a response was due on December 26, 2003. Filed herewith is a request for extension of time extending the response time from December 26, 2003 to January 26, 2004, together with the appropriate fees. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.